

## State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

## **Massage Therapy Awareness Week**

WHEREAS, the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Massage Therapy Association is committed to providing the highest quality of massage therapy and body work to those who seek their professional services; and

WHEREAS, studies have confirmed that massage therapy and integrative care have been proven helpful in controlling pain, relieving stress, boosting the immune system, and reducing heart rate and blood pressure; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the American Massage Therapy Association is to serve AMTA members while advancing the art, science and practice of massage therapy, and "building members through community"; and

WHEREAS, physicians are prescribing massage therapy as complementary care for pain relief of their patients in hospitals and rehab facilities; and

WHEREAS, sports massage therapy is paramount to athletes' preparation and recovery in sporting events at all levels and is used widely across the world; and

WHEREAS, office managers are providing seated massage for their staff, and this translates to healthy and more productive employees; and

WHEREAS, October 23 - 29, 2011 is National Massage Therapy Awareness Week, which is designed to raise public awareness about the benefits of massage and to give all AMTA members an opportunity to demonstrate their profession and skill; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee,** Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim October 23-29, 2011 as Massage Therapy Awareness Week in the State of Rhode Island and encourage all state residents to recognize the importance of this week.

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Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2011

Lincoln D. Chafee

Governor

A. Ralph Mollis Secretary of State